

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 11-24.

Amend claims 5-7, 10, 25, and 27-29.

1. (original) A method of modifying one or more characteristics of a plant comprising introducing into the plant a combination of sequences, each sequence comprising a gene encoding an enzyme having starch synthase activity, or a sequence functionally equivalent thereto, or an effective part thereof, each sequence being operably linked to a promoter so as to affect the expression of corresponding endogenous genes in the plant.
2. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the combination of sequences is introduced into the plant substantially simultaneously.
3. (original) A method according to claim 2, wherein the combination of sequences is introduced into the plant on a single nucleic acid construct.
4. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein a first sequence comprising a gene encoding an enzyme having starch synthase activity or a sequence functionally equivalent thereto, is introduced into a plurality of plants and one or more of the plurality of plants are selected for introduction of a second sequence comprising a second gene encoding an enzyme having starch synthase activity or a sequence functionally equivalent thereto.
5. (currently amended) A method according to claim 1 any one of the preceding ~~claims~~, effective in modifying one or more properties of starch produced by the plant.
6. (currently amended) A method according to claim 1 any one of the preceding ~~claims~~, wherein the introduced sequences are operably linked, directly or indirectly, in an antisense orientation to a promoter.

7. (currently amended) A method according to claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, wherein the introduced sequences comprise a gene encoding potato starch synthase II (SSII) enzyme and a gene encoding potato starch synthase III (SSIII) enzyme or sequences functionally equivalent thereto.
8. (currently amended) A plant modified by the method of any claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, or the progeny of or part of such a plant.
9. (original) A plant according to claim 8, wherein the plant is selected from potato, cassava, maize, wheat, barley, tomato, rice and pea.
10. (currently amended) A method of preparing a food product comprising using ~~use of~~ a plant or part thereof according to claim 8 ~~or 9~~, ~~in the preparation of a food product~~.
11. Currently cancelled.
12. Currently cancelled.
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22. Currently cancelled.
23. Currently cancelled.
24. Currently cancelled.
25. (currently amended) A method of producing starch comprising modifying a plant according to the method of ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1 and extracting starch from the plant.
26. (original) A nucleic acid construct comprising a combination of sequences, each sequence comprising a gene encoding an enzyme having starch synthase activity, or a functionally equivalent sequence thereof or an effective part thereof, each sequence being operably linked to a promoter.
27. (currently amended) A nucleic acid construct according to claim 26, suitable for performing a method in accordance with claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-7~~.
28. (currently amended) A plant comprising a construct according to claim 26 or 27, or the progeny of or part of such a plant.
29. (currently amended) A plant comprising starch which, when extracted from the plant, is in accordance with ~~any one of claims 12-23~~ has a viscosity onset

temperature as judged by viscoamylograph of a 10% w/w aqueous suspension at atmospheric pressure using a Newport Scientific Rapid Visco Analyser reduced by at least 12°C compared to starch extracted from equivalent, unmodified plants.